

*Sub
B' coated
B' coated*

ethyl (meth) acrylate-butyl (meth) acrylate copolymers, and (meth)-acrylate-styrene copolymers.

20. The sheet-decorated molding of claim 19, further comprising a backing resin sheet interposed between the molding and the decorative sheet.--

REMARKS

The claims, specification, and title have been revised in a sincere attempt to advance prosecution.

The title has been changed to eliminate reference to a method and now calls for a decorative sheet or a sheet-decorated molding. Two minor self-evident changes have been made in the specification.

The Examiner's comment regarding the disclosure in the specification at page 16, lines 24 to 29 is acknowledged. The Examiner correctly notes the sample B' could not properly be listed in both quoted areas. It would seem that one B' should be C'. No instructions had been provided to the undersigned on this point. The Examiner will be informed when applicant gives the necessary information to his attorneys.

The rejection of claims 7 and 8 under 35 USC 101 is respectfully traversed. Those claims are not in this case. The Examiner is referred to the first page of the request for

divisional application where there is a specific instruction at 4 to cancel claims 7 and 8.

Claims 9 to 12 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 13 to 20 better to point out that which applicant regards as his invention. The independent claims (13 and 17) call for the decorative sheet to be formed of an acrylic resin that is a (meth)acrylate homopolymer or copolymer or mixtures thereof. New claims 15 and 19 are specific to the types of homopolymers and copolymers used and find their basis in the specification at page 4, lines 2 to 12. The independent claims also retain the language of the canceled independent claims, namely that the acrylic resin has a coefficient of kinetic friction with respect to a flat glass plate in the range of 0.2 to 0.9 and a glass transition temperature of 80°C or below.

The rejection of claims 9 to 12 under 35 USC 103 as allegedly unpatentable over Takada et al. '916, if applied to new claims 13 to 20, is respectfully traversed. The Examiner asserts that the reference teaches the use of an acrylic resin layer with a glass transition temperature greater than or equal to 80°C and that it would have been obvious to use the coefficient of kinetic friction values recited in the claims because the measured value is one from 0.0 to 1.0 "and is a function of the two surfaces tested and any lubricants used."

Applicant respectfully submits that the reference does not teach or suggest the reference as claimed for the following reasons.

The Takada et al. '916 abstract describes the acrylic copolymer used in the molded article as one having a glass transition temperature of about 40°C to about 120°C. It is noted that patent claim 1 describes a glass transition temperature of about 45°C to about 80°C (80°C and below) but there is nothing in the reference that would teach or suggest to a person of ordinary skill in the art the need to control the value of the coefficient of kinetic friction as well.

The instant specification shows one working and three comparative examples. Samples B and D are comparative examples because the coefficient of kinetic friction falls outside the range of the present claims. Samples C is also a comparative example because the glass transition temperature exceeds 80°C.

As applicant discusses in the specification at page 15 and 16, only the product of Sample A gave desired results to satisfy the objects of the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that the person of ordinary skill in the art would not be led thereto from a consideration of Takada et al. '916.

Moreover, the polymer used to form the Takada et al. '916 molded article differs from the polymer of applicant's claims 13 to

20. The reference describes a photopolymerizable polymer composition comprising a modified acrylic copolymer having at least one (meth)acryloyl group-containing side chain, a compound having at least three (meth)acryloyl groups, and a photopolymerization initiator. A reacted glycidyl group is the preferred linkage between the backbone of the acrylic copolymer and the (meth)acryloyl group in the side chain. The product upon curing by light radiation becomes a three dimensional cross-like polymer. The polymers of claims 13 to 20 are not such products. The rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing revisions and remarks it is respectfully submitted that claims 13 to 20 are in condition for allowance and a USPTO paper to those ends is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required prior to allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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